

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend and consider the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for increasing the thermal stability of a well fluid comprising:

mixing about 0.1% to about 50% by weight of a miscible amine in the well fluid, wherein the well fluid comprises a natural polymer used as a viscosifying agent, wherein the miscible amine is used in an amount effective to prevent substantial decomposition of the natural polymer as the well fluid is used, wherein the natural polymer is at least one of hydroxyethylcellulose and guar gum, wherein the well fluid is solids-free.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the miscible amine comprises an amine selected from the group consisting of primary, secondary and tertiary amines, and mixtures thereof.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the amine comprises about 0.2% to about 20% by weight of the well fluid.
4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the amine comprises about 0.5% to about 10% by weight of the well fluid.
5. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the natural polymer comprises about

0.1% to about 5% by weight of the well fluid.

6. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the natural polymer comprises about 0.3% to about 1.5% by weight of the well fluid.

7. (Cancelled).

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the miscible amine comprises triethanol amine.

9-16 (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) A composition for a thermally stable well fluid, the composition consisting of comprising:

a natural polymer used as a viscosifying agent; and

a miscible amine,

wherein the miscible amine is used in an amount effective to prevent substantial decomposition of the natural polymer as the well fluid is used.

18. (Currently Amended) The well fluid composition of claim 17, wherein the miscible amine comprises an amine selected from the group consisting of primary, secondary and tertiary amines, and mixtures thereof.

19. (Currently Amended) The ~~well fluid~~ composition of claim 18, wherein the amine comprises about 0.2% to about 20% by weight of the well fluid.
20. (Currently Amended) The ~~well fluid~~ composition of claim 19, wherein the amine comprises about 0.5% to about 10% by weight of the well fluid.
21. (Currently Amended) The ~~well fluid~~ composition of claim 19, wherein the natural polymer comprises about 0.1% to about 5% by weight of the well fluid.
22. (Currently Amended) The ~~well fluid~~ composition of claim 20, wherein the natural polymer comprises about 0.3% to about 1.5% by weight of the well fluid.
23. (Cancelled)
24. (Currently Amended) The ~~well fluid~~ composition of claim 17, wherein the miscible amine comprises triethanol amine.
25. (Currently Amended) A method of treating a well comprising:  
injecting a solids-free well treating fluid into the well, wherein the well treating fluid comprises a natural polymer used as a viscosifying agent and a miscible amine mixed in an amount effective to prevent substantial decomposition of the natural polymer as the

well fluid is used, wherein the natural polymer is at least one of hydroxyethylcellulose and guar gum.

26. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein the miscible amine comprises an amine selected from the group consisting of primary, secondary and tertiary amines and mixtures thereof.
27. (Cancelled)
28. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein the miscible amine comprises triethanol amine.
29. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein the miscible amine comprises about 0.1 % to about 50% by weight of the well treating fluid.
30. (Original) The method of claim 29, wherein the miscible amine comprises about 0.2% to about 20% by weight of the well treating fluid.
31. (Original) The method of claim 29, wherein the natural polymer comprises about 0.1% to about 5% by weight of the well fluid.
32. (Original) The method of claim 30, wherein the natural polymer comprises about 0.3% to about 1.5% by weight of the well fluid.
- 33-39. (Cancelled)